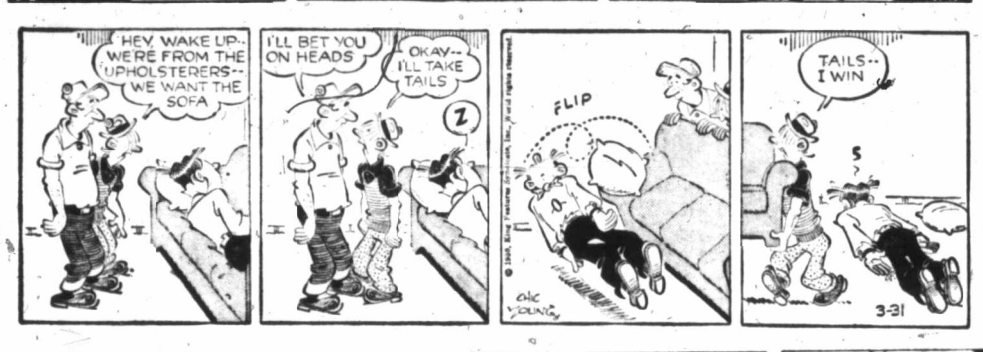
SKY MASTERS

JUDGE PARKER

BLONDIE



BEN BOLT

LIL ABNER

REX MORGAN

ARCHIE

JULIE JONES

POGO

RIP KIRBY

Garden Notes

Fight Off Frost First

By M. V. CHESNUT, FRHS

One of the hazards in growing strawberries is frost during the critical blossoming period. Strawberry plants themselves are tough and fairly frost-resistant, but the delicate open blossoms can be ruined if temperatures at ground level drop even a couple of degrees below freezing.

This danger is increased when the soil between the plants and between the rows has been freshly cultivated, for newly-stirred ground seems to attract frost. For this reason, the sooner the strawberry plot is put in order, the better for the prospective crop.

Most strawberry beds need some attention at this time of the year, especially when a wet fall and winter has packed and crusted the surface since the late autumn cleanup.

* * *

In such circumstances, first remove all dead leaves from the plants, together with any rubbish which may have accumulated through the winter, then fork over the surface lightly and shallowly, at the same time working in a dressing of a good general fertilizer. If an ordinary 5-10-5 or 6-8-6 bag fertilizer is used, the dosage is one cupful per square yard.

After applying fertilizer, brush the plants over lightly with the lawn rake to scatter and dislodge any of the dry chemical which may have fallen on the foliage.

An exception to this treatment arises when the bed was mulched with short manure after the autumn cleanup. In this case, the less surface disturbance now the better, and all that is required is to take off any dead leaves from the plants and remove any loose, dry material from the mulch. This will do the plants until the time comes to bed down with straw.

* * *

If you set out new strawberry plants last fall, they should be looked over carefully for evidence of heaving or lifting during last winter's frosty spells. Any such plants should be firmed down with the feet before hoeing.

Strawberries which were planted in the late summer of last year may be allowed to crop to their heart's content. Those which were set out in late September, though, should be restricted to one truss of fruit per plant, for they aren't completely at home in their new location as yet.

Young strawberries planted this spring should have all their flower stalks nipped off as fast as they appear, for if they are compelled to make new roots and produce fruit at the same time, cropping in future years will never be very satisfactory.

Peach blossom seldom suffers from frost, even though peaches bloom early in the year. I presume this is because the flowers are borne high enough to escape ground frosts, and because most of us grow our peaches against walls, which offer some protection.

We have a different blossom hazard with peaches, though, for the opening of the flowers often coincides with a period of cold winds when insect activity is at low ebb, and pollination may be poor. It is a good idea, therefore, to play Cupid to your trees and do a little hand-pollination.

Among old-time English gardeners, the traditional implement for this job is a rabbit's tail tied to the end of a light bamboo cane. As I don't have a rabbit's tail, I use a little swab of cotton on the end of a match stick, twirling it gently in the eye of each flower in turn.

The kinds of peaches we grow hereabouts can all set fruit with their own pollen, and no "husband" tree is necessary. Occasionally, though, you run across a tree grown from a stone which came originally from the Niagara peninsula, and some of these eastern trees are self-sterile, needing a mate before fruit can be produced.

The Viewing World

By John Crosby

Law on Public Relations Kick

We were on the 5.54 to Scarsdale again, my friend Oswald G. Carruthers and I, and I said: "Well, you certainly stirred up the legal profession. The letters are still coming in, stiff with outrage and stuffy with grammar. My box is full of letterheads like Cadwallader, Cadwallader, Psmythe and Pfish. I must say the lawyers have the finest stationery I have ever seen. All very white, and stiff as a judge. And such printing! The typography alone scared hell out of me'"

"Well," said Oswald, "the lawyers are on a public relations kick. John Cunningham, the advertising swami, recently urged Madison Avenue to get itself better public relations. A few generations ago, he said, Benjamin Franklin wrote of the legal profession: "'God works wonders now and then. "'Behold! A lawyer, an honest man!'

"Oh, there's plenty of literary precedent for taking a bite out of the legal profession but not recently. The barristers have got public relations wise, as they say, so that now attacking the legal profession is like attacking the church. The lawyers have surrounded themselves with sanctity."

"Well," I said, "the chief objection was that you can't indict an entire profession for the malpractices of a few."

"Oh, but I can," said Carruthers happily. "And I do. I'm seriously alarmed by the great gulf in communication between lawyers and people."

"Well, after all," I protested, "lawyers are people . . ."

"I question that," retorted Carruthers. "The aims seem entirely different. A good deal of legal obfuscation seems—to the ordinary layman—to be simple lying. Conversely, simple honesty can land you in jail. Telling the truth is hopelessly illegal in most states and no lawyer would dare attempt it. As I say, we seem to have different aims—the lawyers and us.

"The public relations boys, remember, are lawyers who are trying to put the best face on things. Nobody is representing the poor public who is mulcted by these pious swindlers. The poor clients don't have any fancy letterheads. Or any recourse."

He sighed dreamily: "Some primitive tribes don't allow lawyers in court at all. It's felt in these tribes that the lawyers simply mess things up and delay matters and get in the way of justice. Aaah, if we could only get back to nature . . ."

Hollywood Today

By Sheilah Graham

They Cotton to Cotten

HOLLYWOOD (NANA)—All **Joe Cotten's** friends love him. He persuaded them to invest in his "Once More With Feeling" play. Not only has it paid back 100 per cent of the investors' money but the first profit cheques went out last week—10 per cent—and the play opened only last October.

* * *

June Lockhart is more excited about the possibility of her daughter **Anne** winning an Oscar for the first picture she ever appeared in—the semi-documentary "T Is For Tumbleweed"—than her forthcoming marriage to architect **John Lindsay.**

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Jon Hall's camera company sold the Mexican government three closed-circuit TV sets for installation in the palace of **President Lopez Mateos** for security purposes.

* * *

Ricky Nelson, Lindsay Crosby, Tommy Sands, Randy Sparks, Jimmy Boyd, Jim Mitchum, Molly Bee and **Jimmy Rodgers** are planning a guitar party, but won't say where. They don't want crashers.

* * *

Eartha Kitt, playing the Caribe Hilton in Puerto Rico, went waterskiing for the first time and broke two toes. "That'll teach me," pens Eartha, "not to look at those TV commercials that make sports look like fun."

Winning Contract

By SCHENCKEN AND FREY

Vul: N–S

NORTH
♠ 4
♡ K 9 6 2
◊ K Q 9 4 3
♣ A Q 8

WEST (D)
♠ Q J 9 8 5
♡ J 10 4
◊ A 6
♣ K J 10

EAST
♠ K 10 6 2
♡ Q 7 5
◊ 8 7 5
♣ 9 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A 7 3
♡ A 8 3
◊ J 10 2
♣ 7 6 4 3

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Dbl.	2 ♠	Dbl.
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♡
All Pass			

Opening lead: ♠ Q

North's double is standard, asking partner to bid his best suit. East showed weakness by raising to two spades; at the same time making it tough for South to enter the auction. South's double is called "responsive." It isn't for penalties, but suggests some all-around strength and asks North to name the suit. North passed the buck to South again by cue-bidding spades, and South elected to name the other major though he held only three hearts.

Careful play is essential in handling a four-three trump suit, especially when opponents have a ready-made attack suit with which to force declarer.

South won the spade ace, and led the diamond jack, won by West. Another spade lead was ruffed on the board, and a small trump led and ducked around to West's ten-spot. The next spade was trumped in dummy, and the heart king was cashed. South regained the lead with a diamond to the ten, and his heart ace drew out the trumps. A successful club finesse gave declarer two clubs, four diamonds, two spade ruffs, the ace and king of hearts, and the spade ace for a total of 11 tricks.

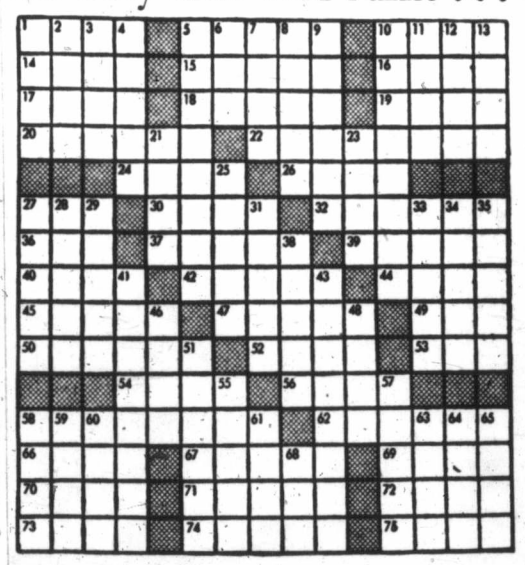
But West might have defeated the contract by ducking the first diamond and cutting declarer's communications. Unless he adopted a different line of play, South subsequently would be unable to return to his hand to draw the last trumps.

Released by The Associated Newspapers

Duplicate Bridge Winners of Week

Winners of the weekly tournament at the Allmasters Duplicate Bridge Club are: first, Mrs. Ethel Cleworth and Mrs. Dorothy McConnell; second, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Beale; third, T. B. Waddington and E. P. Rolls; fourth, Mrs. Eleanor McKee and Miss Freda Small; fifth, Mrs. Lilian Tattersall and Mrs. Ann Kocutyn.

The Daily Cross-Word Puzzle . . .



ACROSS

1. Stop.
5. Firewood measure (pl.).
10. British baby carriage.
14. Genus of olives.
15. Constellation.
16. Hindu queen.
17. Wild hog.
18. Loop with running knot.
19. English boys' school.
20. Trumpet signal call for stage direction.
22. Young tree under three feet.
24. Spanish artist.
26. Measure of Tripoli.
27. Tennis stroke.
30. Etruscan title.
32. One who watches child.
36. Farewell.
37. To climb.
39. Tennis stroke.
40. Slave.
42. Rows.
44. Percolate.
45. Cuts after stick.
46. Dormouse.
49. Nahoor sheep.
50. Belgium seaport.
52. Negri, silent screen star.
53. Pigpen.
54. Italian coin (pl.).
56. Lease.
58. Instrument for measuring thickness of object.
62. Posted.
66. Danish measure.
67. Once more.
69. Upper tone of disjunct tetrachord.
70. Pealed.
71. Having form without essence.
72. Sea eagle.
73. Excavations.
74. Rocky.
75. Fly.

DOWN

1. Male ferret (pl.).
2. Succulent plant.
3. Cant.
4. Mountain lakes.
5. Legal agreement.
6. Gold in Spanish American countries.
7. Rivers (Sp.).
8. Gave prescribed amount of medicine.
9. Scoffs.
10. An ecclesiastic (pl.).
11. Weight of India (var.).
12. In a short time.
13. A Chinese dynasty.
21. Kind of fish (pl.).
23. Raised platform (pl.).
25. Follow after.
27. Lariat.
28. Kilns.
29. Kind of cap.
31. Slumber.
33. Long lock of hair.
34. Occurrence.
35. Recompense.
38. Mistake.
41. Sentiments.
43. Seriously.
46. To cut off.
48. Sumatran squirrel shrew.
51. Visions.
55. Grain fungus.
57. Prong of fork (pl.).
58. Fish.
59. Turkish regiment.
60. Religious period of fasting.
61. Jaganese carriage.
63. Dodecanese island.
64. Heating vessel.
65. Antlered animal.
68. Scotch for John.

Answer to Previous Puzzle:

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)